



**JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER**

# A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello my friends,

The 9th Annual Missouri Liars Contest is just around the corner, July 8, 2023.

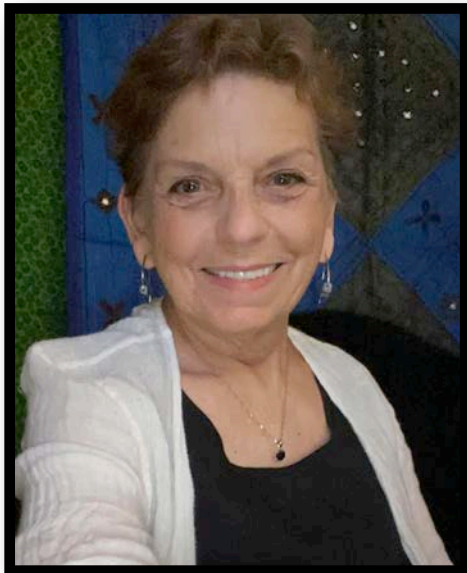
Come to see how it is done. The listening is free. The workshop is free. You only have to pay for your food if you choose to stay for lunch. You can also tell your own lie or some other tale you are dying to tell at the story swap.

There is a raffle for a beautiful quilt, and you can help us out by bidding on one or more of the silent auction items. Part of the money we raise goes to supplying storytellers to Missouri's wonderful state parks.

We look forward to seeing you on the 8th and listening to your tale.

Love to you all,

Joyce Slater  
President of MO-TELL



“Stories have power. They delight, enchant, touch, teach, recall, inspire, motivate, challenge. They help us understand. They imprint a picture on our minds. Consequently, stories often pack more punch than sermons. Want to make a point or raise an issue? Tell a story.”

- Janet Litherland

MAGNET  
HERE

# FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET  
HERE

STORIES, GATHERINGS, AND STORY GATHERINGS  
AROUND OUR FAIR STATE.

## RAPS

July 2023

### RAPS Meetings for July 2023 for MO-TELL Newsletter.

**Thursday July 6, 2023, 7:00 pm** First  
Thursday Meeting  
Hybrid\* meeting at Trailside Center AND  
on Zoom  
Teller Spotlight: Sara Tucker-Poff  
Story Theme: “**My Country**”

**Saturday July 15, 2023, 10:30 am** Third  
Sat. Meeting  
Hybrid\* meeting at Woodneath AND on  
Zoom

**Thursday August 3, 2023, 7:00 pm** First  
Thursday Meeting  
Hybrid\* meeting at Trailside Center AND  
on Zoom  
Annual Meeting & Officer Election  
**Dessert Bar** (Food!!!! – *In-person ONLY*)  
Story Theme: “**Biggest Blunder**”

\*Hybrid meetings will be held in-person at:  
Trailside Center                      Woodneath Library Center  
99<sup>th</sup> & Holmes Rd.                      8900 NE Flintlock Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131                      Kansas City, MO 64157

## MO-TELL OFFERS: FREE, COURTESY GROCERY LIST SPACE:

## GATEWAY

**All members are to attend the Liars  
Contest for July's meeting.**

**“No exceptions,” says Ric Vice.  
So you better listen.**

**Yeah, see?**

# THE STORY BEAST

For Story Artists, Listeners, and Dreamers

Sink your teeth and claws into our monthly publication now



A new free E-Publication the 15th of each month

While you explore, consider submitting stories, articles, poems, and art.



[STORYBEAST.ORG/ARCHIVE](http://STORYBEAST.ORG/ARCHIVE)





Cordially Invites You To  
**ENJOY HANDCRAFTED FIBS**  
at the  
**Ninth Annual Missouri Liars Contest**

July 8, 2023

Webster Groves Masonic Temple



YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT!

WHO CAN?

For more details, please visit:  
**MO-TELL.ORG/LIARS-CONTEST**

**IT ALL HAPPENS ON JULY 8TH!**

**IT'S ALL TRUE, THIS CONTEST.  
AS FAR AS YOU KNOW...**

**THE NINTH ANNUAL  
MISSOURI LIARS CONTEST**  
SATURDAY, JULY 8TH, 2023 - 8:30AM - 5:00PM

WEBSTER GROVES MASONIC TEMPLE  
12 E. LOCKWOOD AVE. WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119

**FREE OF CHARGE!  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

**STORY SWAP** SHARE YOUR STORY!

**SILENT AUCTION** BENEFIT YOURSELF & MO-TELL!

**"FIND YOUR VOICE" WORKSHOP** HONE YOUR SKILLS!

**LIARS CONTEST** BE THE 2023'S CHAMPION FABULIST!

**MORE DETAILS AT**  
[MO-TELL.ORG/LIARS-CONTEST](http://MO-TELL.ORG/LIARS-CONTEST)



**BE THERE. SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT.**

**JULY 8, 2023**

# MISSOURI LIARS CONTEST

## SCHEDULE OF SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023

8:30 - Registration

9:15-10:45 - Storytelling Workshop for Beginning & Skilled Tellers - "Find Your Voice(s)" with Master Storyteller, Sherry Norfolk

11:00-11:30 - Story Swap (Stories 5 minutes or less.)

11:30-3:30 - Silent Auction Begins

11:30-12:30 - Lunch \$15 - food and a beverage

1:00-3:30 - **2023 9th Annual Liars Contest**

- Winner of the Written Contest reads story aloud.
- Awards presented to champion liars.

4:00 - Silent Auction Ends

- Quilt Raffle winner announced.

4:00-5:00 Pay up and cleanup

### Find Your Voice(s)

a workshop with Sherry Norfolk

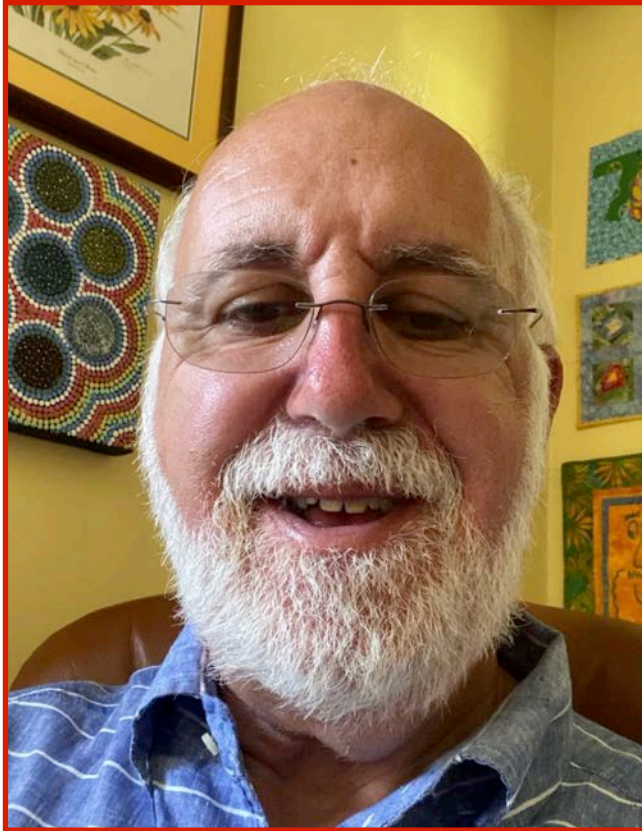
An actor typically develops a voice for one character whom s/he plays throughout the performance. But a STORYTELLER is responsible for portraying all the characters plus the narrator – and needs to move between them smoothly and consistently throughout the story!

In this highly interactive workshop, we'll explore how to develop distinctive voices for each of the characters in your stories using pitch, tone, rhythm, tempo and texture. We'll also practice using visualization to maintain those voices faithfully throughout the story. *Please come prepared with a story that has a minimum of three characters* that you can learn to bring to life through character voices. A simple well-known folk tale is fine. If you don't have one we can give you one!

# THE FABRICATIONS WILL FLY FREELY!

# JULY 8, 2023

# MO-TELL FOUNDER OF THE MONTH



## *David Schlamb*

David Schlamb loves storytelling. He and Perrin Stifel were co-founders of MO-TELL, Missouri Storytelling Inc in 1987.

For me, storytelling began on Saturday nights at bedtime. That's when my father would tell us a story. My favorite was How Ruddy Raccoon Got His Mask. Dad had learned it as a boy from his father, John Lafayette.

Emily Thatch was responsible for my reintroduction to the genre on a summer afternoon in 1981. I was teaching fifth grade and she was drumming up business for her storytelling workshop. When SHE announced she was going to tell the class Beowulf, I knew we were in trouble. After all, I had been subjected to Beowulf, Lady in the Lake, Last of the Mohicans, and other choice classics. My fears were unfounded.

Instead of a laundry list of who was related to who, Emily had us mesmerized by a monster with eyes of green flickering flames fighting a hero with the strength of 30 men. I signed up for the workshop.

Traditionally, Beowulf begins: We have heard it all before and we rejoice in the retelling. In a preliterate society, you might learn the story by hearing it a number of times. Nowadays we can read the text a number of times to get the story in our brains. And so, I began storytelling days in my classroom. We told ghost stories on Halloween, fairy tales on the day before winter vacation, and folk tales on the day before spring vacation.

398.2 (Folk Tales and Fairy Tales) was not the only section of the library. We also searched the biography shelves for stories about famous Americans of the same gender and race as the students so they could prepare a one-person performance for the end of school.

While all of this was going on, a number of St. Louis storytellers gathered at Perrin Stifel's house with the intention of starting a storytelling organization. My suggestion of MO-TELL carried the day and paved the way for IL-TELL and KAN-TELL.

And so, storytelling became my passion in the classroom at Old Bonhomme School, I became known as that man who tells stories.



# MO-TELL QUILT RAFFLE

AS A PART OF OUR FUNDRAISING, MO-TELL HAS A WONDERFUL QUILT TO RAFFLE. IT IS BRAND NEW. THE QUILT IS A HAND-PIECED QUILT WITH MACHINE QUILTING. MO-TELL MEMBER MARSHA STIFEL MELLENDORF MADE THE QUILT AND IS DONATING IT FOR THE RAFFLE.

- THE QUILT MEASURES 56" BY 72".
- COLORS ARE EARTH TONES WITH A LIGHT BROWN FIELD AND BLACK BORDER.
- THE TICKETS FOR THE RAFFLE ARE AS FOLLOWS: ONE TICKET FOR \$5, THREE TICKETS FOR \$10, FIVE TICKETS FOR \$15 AND TEN TICKETS FOR \$20.
- TICKETS ARE FOR SALE NOW THROUGH THE LIARS CONTEST ON JULY 8, 2023. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.
- MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A MAILING REGARDING THE RAFFLE.
- THE DRAWING FOR THE QUILTS WILL BE AT THE END OF THE



# **GIVE A LITTLE SO WE CAN GIVE A LOT.**



[www.mo-tell.org](http://www.mo-tell.org)

## **Silent Auction Event 2023 Annual Fundraising**

Missouri Storytelling, Inc., MO-TELL, is a 501C3 storytelling organization dedicated to spreading the joy and art of storytelling throughout the state of Missouri.

On July 8, 2023, MO-TELL will celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri LIARS CONTEST in Webster Groves, MO. Contestants come from all over the state and beyond. Listeners come to hear the wonderful stories! The event is free and open to the public.

This will be a grand event with storytelling, swapping ground, story workshop, as well as the LIARS CONTEST. There will be a Silent Auction to support the MO-TELL mission.

We are asking for donations to the auction. The funds support storytelling in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites as well as festivals. Our goal for 2023 is to raise \$2,023. We can then bring storytelling to people throughout Missouri. We are asking for a donation valued at just \$20 or more. Last year we had auction items valued up to \$100. If you donate, your name will be listed in the program. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is a partner in this mission. Our board and MO-TELL members donate as well. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you for your donation! Call or text Perrin Stifel at 314-413-2858 with any questions. Keep this copy for your donated item.

Donor name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of donation \_\_\_\_\_

Item donated \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_

Item donated \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_

Donation accepted by \_\_\_\_\_ (signature of member)

Thanks for your support of storytelling in Missouri

Joyce Slater, President, Missouri Storytelling, Inc.  
7338 Belleview, Kansas City, MO 64114



[www.mo-tell.org](http://www.mo-tell.org)

**Silent Auction Donations, Page 2**  
**MO-TELL LIARS CONTEST 2023**

**This page is to be returned with donated item (s)** to Perrin Stifel in the St. Louis area or Joyce Slater in the Kansas City area for Silent Auction. Please mail any gift certificates to Perrin at 636 Elmwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119. We will set up the auction the morning of July 8, 2023, at the event at the Webster Groves Masonic Temple, 12 E. Lockwood Ave. 63119.

Donation to Missouri Storytelling, Inc., MO-TELL.

Dear Friend of Storytelling,

Thank you for your generous donation to MO-TELL. MO-TELL is a 501C3 organization devoted to spreading the art and joy of storytelling throughout the state of Missouri. Your gift helps to continue this mission in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites.

Please list the value of your donation here for tax purposes.

Item \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_

Item \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_

Donor name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of donation \_\_\_\_\_

Donation(s) accepted by \_\_\_\_\_ (signature of member)

Again, thanks.

Missouri Storytelling, Inc.

Call Perrin at 314-413-2858 for questions or email at [pstifelstl@earthlink.net](mailto:pstifelstl@earthlink.net)

# **HEY, MO-TELL GANG!**

THOSE LOVABLE MUCKITY-MUCKS AT MO-TELL ARE BEGINNING A HISTORY PROJECT.

THEY'RE BEGINNING TO CONTACT CURRENT, FORMER, AND CHARTER MEMBERS TO "PICK THEIR BRAINS" FOR INPUT AND IDEAS. YOUR BRAINS MAY JUST BE THE MOST PICKABLE OF ALL!

WE NEED YOUR THOUGHTS!

SEE BELOW ON ITS OWN PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION!

## **WHILE WE HAVE YOUR ATTENTION..**

IN 2023 MO-TELL WILL HOST FOUR ZOOM EVENTS. ALL OF THESE EVENTS WILL BE AT 7:00 PM (CENTRAL) AND ONLY ON ZOOM.

MARCH 14 LUCK OF THE IRISH  
JUNE 13 CRAZY DAYS OF SUMMER  
SEPTEMBER 12 A NEW MOON - NEW BEGINNINGS  
DECEMBER 12 HELPING HANDS



## [Performance Basics](#)

Thu, Jul 6 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event Registration Required

Discover how to unleash your potential and connect with your audience in this interactive workshop from storyteller George Pettigrew.

[EVENT DETAILS](#) [REGISTER NOW](#)

## [Storycrafting Fundamentals \(Zoom\)](#)

Wed, Jul 12 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**  
Writer and storyteller Laura Packer will explore character development, story structure, point of view, understanding your audience, and other story crafting techniques.

[EVENT DETAILS](#) [REGISTER NOW](#)

## [Fractured Fairytales \(Hybrid\)](#)

Thu, Jul 13 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event Registration Required

Join storyteller Rich White, the winner of the 2019 Missouri's State Liar's Contest, on a lesson in fracturing fairytales.

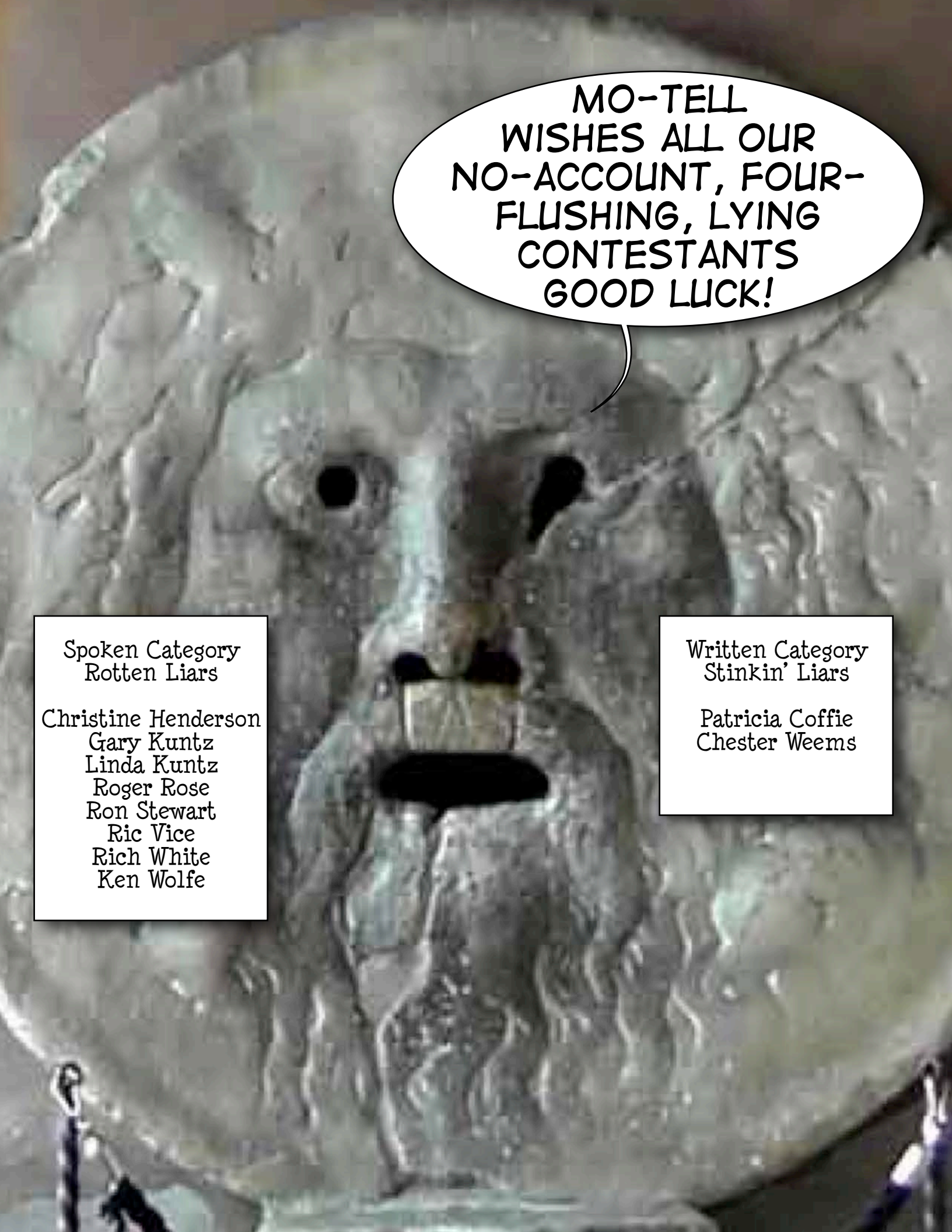
[EVENT DETAILS](#) [REGISTER NOW](#)

## [Story Swap \(Hybrid\)](#)

Thu, Jul 20 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event Registration Required

This open-mic storytelling event is open to anyone! Put your name in the hat for a chance to share a seven-minute story, or just come to enjoy the show.

[EVENT DETAILS](#) [REGISTER NOW](#)



MO-TELL  
WISHES ALL OUR  
NO-ACCOUNT, FOUR-  
FLUSHING, LYING  
CONTESTANTS  
GOOD LUCK!

Spoken Category  
Rotten Liars

Christine Henderson  
Gary Kuntz  
Linda Kuntz  
Roger Rose  
Ron Stewart  
Ric Vice  
Rich White  
Ken Wolfe

Written Category  
Stinkin' Liars

Patricia Coffie  
Chester Weems

# IT'S STILL THE MTHP 2023

IN THE COMING MONTHS WE WILL BEGIN INTERVIEWS FOR THE MO-TELL HISTORY PROJECT.

ALL MEMBERS OF MO-TELL WILL BE ASKED FOR MEMORIES OF MISSOURI STORYTELLING, INC. FROM ITS BEGINNING UNTIL TODAY. WE LOST MUCH OF OUR HISTORY YEARS AGO AND ARE TRYING TO RECOVER IT THROUGH THE MTHP.

THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR INPUT! WE NEED YOU!!

CURRENT MEMBERS WILL BE PHONED OR EMAILED BY A BOARD MEMBER. YOU MAY CHOOSE TO RESPOND ORALLY OR BY EMAIL, BY ANSWERING SOME QUESTIONS, OR BY USPS MAIL TOO. WE WILL ALSO INTERVIEW PAST MEMBERS AND TELLERS INVOLVED WITH MO-TELL.

WE WANT ALL MEMORIES AND WILL COMPILE THEM. WE NEED ANY PAPERS: NEWSLETTERS FROM THE PAST, TICKETS, ADS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC.

EVERY QUESTION COULD BE ANSWERED WITH THE 5 W'S. WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY WILL GIVE US A FULL PICTURE. THANKS!

--PERRIN STIFEL

PERRIN STIFEL  
636 ELMWOOD AVE.  
WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119

314-413-2858  
PSTIFELSTL@EARTHLINK.NET

**NOW THAT YOU'VE FOUND MO-TELL  
DON'T LET GO!**



NORMALLY, WE'D SAY "DON'T LOOK DOWN" BUT, IN THIS  
INSTANCE, THE DETAILS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE BELOW.

**LOOK DOWN &  
JOIN UP!**

# THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

**RENEW TODAY!**

<i>MEMBERSHIP</i>	<i>ANNUAL DUES</i>	<i>COMES WITH</i>
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$25	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$40	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$35	FAMILY-WIDE MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$50	TWICE AS MUCH OF THE SAME!!
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP -60	\$250	LOGO BAG <i>PLUS</i> MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP 60+	\$200	LOGO BAG <i>PLUS</i> MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)

### SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

MO-TELL c/o Jackie Wright, PO Box 28994, St. Louis, MO 63132-8994

Olivette Branch Post Office, 9621 Olive Blvd. 63132-9998.



### THE BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE FOR YOUR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

1. MISSOURI STATE PARKS STORYTELLING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE
2. MISSOURI LIAR'S CONTEST
3. WEB SITE PRESENCE FOR STORYTELLERS
4. MONTHLY STORYTELLING PROGRAMS
5. LOADS OF MERCH (HATS, CAPS, CLIPS, MUGS, BAGS, AND WHATNOT!)
6. NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK AFFILIATION
7. A WORLD CLASS NEWSLETTER (HUZZAH!)
8. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AND A VOICE THEREIN!)
9. CONNECTION TO THE OTHER STORYTELLING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION

**RENEW TODAY!**



# Story of the Month

## MOTHER GOOSE AND MARY'S LAMB

Many suppose Mother Goose to be an imaginary personage, but she was a real woman, and her maiden name was Elizabeth Foster. She was born in 1665, married Isaac goose in 1693, a few years later became a member of the Old South church, of Boston, and died in 1757 at the age of 92. Her songs were originally sung to her grandchildren. They were first published in 1716 by her son-in-law, Thomas Fleet, of Boston.

The Mary that had a little lamb was Mary Elizabeth Sawyer, a Massachusetts girl; her lamb was one of twins forsaken by her unnatural mother. Mary took it home and cared for it herself. They became fast friends, and when Mary started to school her pet missed her very much, so one morning it followed her. As school she tucked in under her desk and covered it with her shawl, but when she went out to her spelling class, the lamb trotted after her. The children laughed wildly and the teacher had the lamb removed from the room. On that morning a young student named Rawlinston was a visit at the school. The incident awakened his poetic genius and a few days later he handed Mary the first three verses of the poem. He died soon after, ignorant of the immortality of his verses.



# IN THE BEGINNING..

## **Our interview with co-founder Perrin Stifel**

As many of you know or are just learning MO-TELL has embarked on our history project. We are in search of those who were there in the beginning to help with the memories of how MO-TELL got started and contacting you our current members to share their personal relationship with MO-TELL. Without going into much detail many memories, newsletters, photos, and memorabilia were lost so as not to lose sight of our “story” we begin. Of course, the perfect place to begin is the person who helped start it all and continues to be an integral part of our being, Perrin Stifel.

Perrin was already telling stories and a member of Gateway in the early 1980’s. He remembers attending a workshop weekend with EARS (Kentucky’s storytelling organization led by Lee Pennington) at the Pennyrile State Park in Kentucky. Perrin and David Schlamb, our co-founder, drove back and a conversation ensued. David and Perrin wondered if it was possible to have a similar statewide organization and tell in Missouri State Parks. At that time Gateway stayed pretty close to home and was really a local St. Louis entity. The Gateway folks did not feel it was something they wanted to do at the time. Enter Perrin and David stage right, well really, they got together in Perrin’s house and MO-TELL began.

They knew they wanted programs in State Parks, that was clear, which led Perrin on a trip to Jefferson City to meet with the Department of Natural Resources, the branch of our state government over State Parks. At that time, the directors were Steve Powell and Nonie McClammer. The meeting was a huge success and both directors were eager and excited to open the parks to storytellers. MO-TELL began with a summer series and a fall ghost stories series and a workshop and telling at Cuivre River State Park near Troy, MO. That first weekend attracted twelve folks and they cleared \$75. Two hundred folks came to the state park telling in the large dining hall. MO-TELL grew into two workshop weekends a year adding Lake of The Ozarks State Park. Bobby Norfolk, Nora Gilman, Annette Harrison, Jackie Torrence, Hope Varner, Dan Keding, Lynn Rubright, Pleasant de Spain, and many, many others were featured at the weekends.

Back then and now MO-TELL's purpose was to gather, find and nurture storytellers from all over Missouri, giving them a place to meet and connect. The St. Louis tellers, Kansas City tellers, and points beyond and between supported each other to follow the mission of spreading the joy and art of telling throughout the state. This is the time when MO-TELL began close working relationships with our KC gang, Joyce Slater, and Jim 2 Crows Wallen and of course others. It was working!

Perrin also remembers Jimmy Neil Smith of NAPPS giving him the great advice of quickly becoming 501c3 so MO-TELL could accept donations and other tax-exempt advantages, one of which was free law services from the Lawyers for the Arts, helping those early years documents.

In the meantime, Steve Powell, you remember, one of the Directors of Natural Resources, left that position and took a position with St. Charles Tourism. He was responsible for bringing the 1909 Goldenrod Showboat to the St. Charles riverfront. Steve thought it would be a great place for a storytelling festival. Thus began the Missouri River Storytelling Festival. This festival was so successful they had attendees from sixteen states right from the beginning with full-page advertising in the NAPPS (National Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling). MO-TELL became a part of the renaissance of storytelling back in the 1980's. The featured presenters that first year were Jackson Gillman and Michael Parent. There was also a dinner theater with over one hundred folks attending and a tent on the riverbank which could hold three hundred on the shore for more festivities. Coming on to the 1909 showboat was truly a magical experience! And the telling through the years was magical as well!

Those early years of the state parks, the showboat and other events gave Perrin some great memories. He went to Troy, MO for supplies and bought forty-eight rolls of toilet paper for the dozen people attending. Later T.P. became an attendance prize at events! At the Burger King, a young man had on a shirt that read "We've heard it all before" and Perrin thought of the end of the quote "We rejoice in the retelling." Then as he returned to the park an owl flew right above his head and he felt the silent breeze giving him shivers and a sign that the future of MO-TELL would be exciting. When Jackie Torrence gave her workshop at Lake of the Ozarks, she gave the listeners exactly what they needed so they could "capture an audience." She was the BEST! They all loved Kevin Locke share his Native American Hoop Dance on the showboat, Ed Stivender talking about the fifth wall, Dan Keding's voice and music, and Pleasant De Spain working with them on a simple but powerful four-square breathing exercise. The workshops were the best. Attendees got to know these "best-of-the-best tellers personally as they shared their stories and shared themselves.

The Goldenrod left St. Charles. MO-TELL moved the festival to The Depot on the St. Charles riverfront and other locations and continued the festival for a number of years.

In 1989, while at a Texas conference for NAPPS, Perrin attended a workshop about Connecticut's Tellabration. In 1988, Paw-Paw Pinkerton began a night of storytelling for adults. So, Missouri joined the states of Connecticut and Texas as a part of the second annual Tellabration. MO-TELL sent five tellers to five locations that night of November 17, 1989. We continue to be a part of Tellabration to this day. This was one of the ways, in the early days, MO-TELL would raise money for its endeavors. For donation of \$3 one could hear storytelling for adults! MO-TELL had dinners and auctions at Sue Hinkel's church and other locations to raise money also. What fun!

After 6 years of creating MO-TELL it was time to pass the baton so Sue Hinkel. She became the new Executive Director, but Perrin has always been a part in one way or the other.

Perrin worked as a school counselor for his "day job" and the Assembly Director! It was a perfect way to bring in storytelling and tellers. As the counselor, he went in every classroom every month and told different stories which just "happened" to be themed around the character word of the month. The children would sometime remark, "Mr. Stifel, that story was about our word of the month!" Imagine that! He became known to the students and loved as the storytelling counselor. "People know us by the stories we tell."

Perrin believes in not taking ourselves too seriously. In other words, "don't be scared to share a story. Just tell it! Yes, do as good a job as you can, and be the vehicle to carry on the spoken tradition of storytelling. Diversity is important also. Listen to as many tellers as you can. We are all unique and share our talents in our own way. We learn about diverse cultures that way too. MO-TELL's saving grace is the belief in the telling as well as the teller while sharing good messages." He hopes we can continue to do that and share our love of stories in our parks and historic sites and more places in Missouri.

Thank you, Perrin, we are proud to be a part of your legacy and we are so honored you are a part of our future. Let someone else oversee the purchase of toilet paper though!



# WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Missouri Storytelling, Inc (MO-TELL) is an organization of storytellers and other interested persons dedicated to spreading the joy and art of storytelling throughout Missouri.

## MISSION STATEMENT

We envision that every Missourian will hear and share stories and keep the oral tradition alive.

## VISION STATEMENT

President: Joyce Slater, joyceslater20@gmail.com

Vice-President Sue Hinkel, suehinkel1@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jackie Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net (Membership)

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

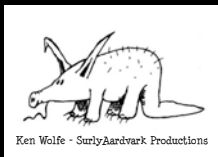
At Large: Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com  
Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com  
Glen "Papa" Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

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Volume 6, Newsletter 7

Our mailing address: 7338 Belleview Ave, Kansas City, MO 64114



# THE MO-TELL BOARD